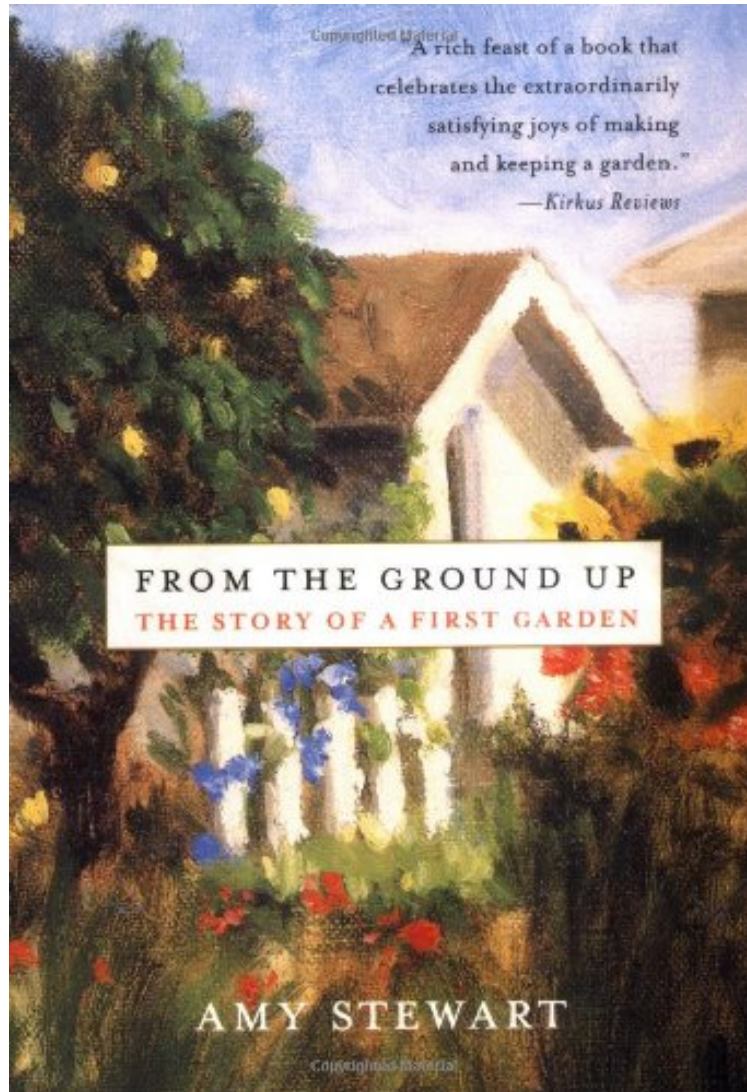


(Download pdf) From the Ground Up: The Story of a First Garden

From the Ground Up: The Story of a First Garden

Amy Stewart

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#407210 in Books 2002-03-05Ingredients: Example IngredientsOriginal language:EnglishPDF # 1 7.19 x .69 x 6.481, .55 #File Name: 0312287674272 pages | File size: 37.Mb

Amy Stewart : From the Ground Up: The Story of a First Garden before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised From the Ground Up: The Story of a First Garden:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A great book about what drives gardeners and the emotional relationship you develop with your garden.By AngelaI sometimes want to read what I call a garden story and this is a great example of that. That weird obsession some of us get with putting plants into soil and watching them grow. There was some interesting information that I might return to, but what I really enjoyed was following her through the process and enjoying the garden she creates with her0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. DelightfulBy

Rene Sears This is a delightful account of the author's first garden. As a neophyte gardener myself, I really appreciated Stewart's writing about both the joys she found and mistakes she made. (I have experienced some of both!) Her authorial voice is evocative and funny. If you have any interest in gardening, I'd recommend this book. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A lovey read if you like gardening! By Christine Samuel Just delightful enjoyed every page. It took me way back to when I started my first garden in 1974!!! It was a pleasure to read about her ups and downs as I went through them too. If you enjoy gardening buy this book, you won't be disappointed

Amy Stewart had a simple dream. She wanted a garden. When she and her husband finished graduate school, they headed west to Santa Cruz, California. With little money in their pockets, they found a modest seaside cottage with a small backyard. It wasn't much a twelve-hundred-square-foot patch of land with a couple of fruit trees and a lot of dirt but it was a good place to start. From the Ground Up is Stewart's chronicle of the seedlings and weeds, cats and compost, worms and watering that transform a tiny plot of earth into a glorious garden. From planting the seeds her great-grandmother sends to battling snails, gophers, and aphids, Stewart takes us on a tour of her coastal garden and shares the lessons she's learned the hard way. In the process, she brings her California beach town to life complete with harbor seals, monarch butterfly migrations, and an old-fashioned, seaside amusement park just down the street. Delighting in triumphs and confessing to a multitude of gardening sins, Stewart dishes the dirt for both the novice and experienced gardener. With helpful tips in each chapter, From the Ground Up tells the story of a young woman's determination to create a garden in which the plants struggle to live up to the gardener's vision

From Library Journal How-to gardening books abound; how-not-to gardening memoirs are rarer. When Stewart and her husband bought their first home in California, she was eager to grow the bountiful, colorful garden she had so long envisioned. With much enthusiasm and little knowledge, she began her weekly trek to the local nursery to stock up on all varieties of seedlings. Why, she wondered, did they not flourish after being planted in the bare backyard? Only after many mistakes, much expense, and worrisome encounters with weeds and bugs was she able to transform her little plot into "a garden with soul," jumbled and luxuriant. Along with a witty description of her mistakes, the author shares her solutions. She gives other beginning gardeners tips on making earthworm manure, improving the soil by sheet composting, encouraging beneficial insects, and sharing excess produce with neighbors. Written in a humorous, conversational style, this book is recommended for public libraries. D. Ilse Heidmann, San Marcos, TX Copyright 2001 Reed Business Information, Inc. From Booklist Stewart, a young Texan, creates her first garden from scratch in the beach town of Santa Cruz, California. Although the rental bungalow she shares with her husband, Scott, is close enough to the town's boardwalk for its amusement-park aromas and roller-coaster cries to infiltrate the not-so-private space of their house and yard, she rolls up her sleeves anyway and sets about beautifying the neighborhood. Accompanied by her feline pals, Stewart pursues a commendable path, one taken by a flourishing society of green thumbs bent on eradicating weeds and cultivating the soil so that flowers will grow and vegetables will prosper. In an episodic style, she writes of her progress from a novice with little know-how to a developing and altogether enthusiastic gardener intent on enriching a small plot of land. At the close of each chapter, Stewart offers recipes and tips to help ease the way for readers unfamiliar with garden basics. In a first book filled with promise, Stewart tellingly recounts the making of a garden and the essential life lessons the act of gardening so often teaches. Alice Joyce Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved "A rich feast of a book that celebrates the extraordinarily satisfying joys of making and keeping a garden." -- Kirkus